

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TANANA 00483 111345Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /054 W
-----111623Z 124935 /42
R 111306Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8997

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E.O. 11652:N/A (DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT)
TAGS: PINT, MA
SUBJECT: MARCH 20 LOCAL ELECTIONS: DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS POSTPONED

REF: TANANARIVE 0439

1. DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION BY FIVE REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
OF CANDIDATES FOR 10,471 FOKONTANY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES WAS
ORIGINALLY SET FOR MAR 10. ON MAR 10 PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA
STUMPING IN MONIMA'S STRONGHOLD, TULEAR, ANNOUNCED THAT DEADLINE POST-
PONED
TO 6 PM MAR 14.

2. IT WELL KNOWN THAT WHEREAS PRESIDENT'S REVOLUTIONARY
ORGANIZATION, AREMA, HAS MANAGED TO ESTABLISH "CELLS" & NOMINATE
CANDIDATES IN VIRTUALLY ALL 10,471 FOKONTANY, THE OTHER FOUR
REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS HAVE NOT DONE SO WELL, AND MAY
WELL NEED ANOTHER FEW DAYS TO GET THEMSELVES ORGANIZED.

3. COMMENT: AREMA WITH THE PRESIDENT'S & GOVERNMENT'S BACKING
HAS TREMENDOUS ADVANTAGES OVER ITS FOUR FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE
NATIONAL FRONT. NOT THE LEAST OF THESE ADVANTAGES IS THE
MANNER IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS STAGE MANAGED THE
ORGANIZATION OF THESE ELECTIONS. NEWS & SCHEDULES OF
REQUIRED STEPS & PROCEDURES ARE ONLY RELEASED PIECEMEAL &
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USUALLY ONLY A FEW DAYS OR WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT, GIVING
OTHER FOUR ORGANIZATIONS LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO ADJUST
TO THE NEW SITUATION. MOST POLITICAL OBSERVERS EXPECT THAT
AREMA WILL WIN HANDILY ON MAR 20. THUS PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA
MAY HAVE POSTPONED NOMINATION DEADLINE IN ORDER GIVE APPEARANCE
OF FAIRNESS.BARRETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: NOMINATION, ELECTION CANDIDATES, LOCAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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